

THE WHITE HOUSE
Office of the Press Secretary

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REMARKS
OF
DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BOBBY R. INMAN
AND COUNSEL TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL RICHARD K. WILLARD
ON THE NEW EXECUTIVE ORDER ON
UNITED STATES INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES

The Briefing Room

2:50 P.M. EST

ADMIRAL INMAN: Ladies and gentlemen of the press and distinguished guests, it is my pleasure on behalf of the intelligence community to welcome the President's new Executive Order on United States Intelligence Activities.

The order is the result of intensive interagency study by the intelligence community, the Department of Justice, other interested Executive Branch elements, as well as consultation with the Congress through the intelligence oversight committees.

The new order, as did its predecessors, serves two main purposes. First, it establishes the organization, structure, and mission of the intelligence community in a public document. Until President Ford's order in 1976, these matters were spelled out primarily in classified directives of the National Security Council.

Secondly, the order establishes basic ground rules and standards for the conduct of intelligence activities that may affect Americans and American institutions. These ground rules and standards are vital for two reasons. First, there must be no doubt that the rights of Americans will be respected and preserved during the course of intelligence activities that may affect them.

Second, professional intelligence officers deserve to be told in as clear terms as are possible the proper limits for their activities. This is to ensure that they will not be unfairly placed in jeopardy for the performance of difficult, sometimes dangerous, and usually unsung activities on behalf of their country.

The President's order accomplishes these purposes which I have just described. The new order sets clear goals for the intelligence community and emphasizes that these goals are to be accomplished in accordance with law, provisions of the order, and regard for the rights of Americans.

Consideration of the rights of Americans and the need for clear, understandable guidelines for intelligence activities were the factors that shaped Part 2 of the new order. The new order clearly and affirmatively authorizes the essential intelligence activities that may affect Americans. Collection and other activities will continue to be conducted pursuant to procedures established by the head of each intelligence agency and approved by the Attorney General. Such procedures will continue to be pro-